



## **Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 9, 2020

### **Current COVID-19 case count**

**Scott County** – Total of 923

Total deaths in Scott County: 10

**Rock Island County** – 17 new cases since Wednesday; total of 1,139

Currently in hospital: 10

Total deaths in Rock Island County: 30

### **Today's call**

A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

### **Highest count to date in Scott County**

Remarks from Ed Rivers, director of the Scott County Health Department

From the beginning of our COVID-19 response, before the first cases of COVID-19 were ever found in the Quad Cities, we had two ultimate goals:

- To minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the community
- To keep the health care system from being overwhelmed to the point that it can't care for all the individuals needing care in our community — for COVID-19 or other illnesses

We fully expect that the increases in cases over the last three weeks will begin putting pressure on health care resources in our community. Today we will hear from one of the many health care providers in our community and the impacts they are seeing on the front lines.

### **Higher positivity rate in community**

Remarks from Sharae Huff, director of quality at Community Health Care

Similar to what the local health departments are seeing with an increase in cases, we are also seeing that with our onsite testing. This is not because of an increase in tests being completed. That number has remained consistent for our organization throughout this pandemic. We are however, seeing a higher number of positive cases from those test results. That is very concerning. It's impossible to simply isolate the highest risk people to protect them. We all have to do our part to make an impact.

This increase in cases is a reflection of what we, the wider public are doing in our daily lives. All of us want to go back to normal. We all want kids to return to school in August. We need to take action to reflect that. Wearing a mask in public will make a big difference. That is our ask of you today.

As for care being provided at Community Health Care, we are still seeing patients predominantly through telehealth and that will continue. Some services, including pediatric school physicals, dental care and most obstetrics care is happening in our clinics. For those patients, we've made changes to keep our patients and staff safe. We are symptom screening before patients arrive in the clinics, and everyone is wearing masks, hand washing, and practicing social distancing, etc. We're committed to doing our part, and hope you'll join us by doing simple things like wearing a mask when you're in public.

### **Testing extended in Rock Island**

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department

The community based COVID-19 drive-through testing site now will remain at the QCCA Expo Center parking lot through Sunday, July 19. The site is at the QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave., Rock Island. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Testing especially is encouraged for residents showing symptoms consistent of COVID-19. These symptoms include: fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Test results will up to four days to be reported, and patients will receive results, positive or negative, by a phone call. Personnel from the state lab will call tested patients twice from this phone number: 888-297-7208. No message will be left because of privacy reasons.

Patients can call back that toll-free number and talk to a person. They will need to provide their name and date of birth to receive test results.

This testing site is possible through a partnership with the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Rock Island County Emergency Management Agency, the QCCA Expo Center and the Rock Island County Health Department.

More than 2,300 tests have been administered since June 29 at the Rock Island site.

### **Other speaker**

Dr. Rebecca Hayes, chief medical officer at Community Health Care, also answered questions, but she did not have prepared remarks.

### **More information**

- [www.TogetherQC.com](http://www.TogetherQC.com)
- [coronavirus.iowa.gov](http://coronavirus.iowa.gov)
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>

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